

**Board of Trustees**  
**Suffolk County Department of Parks**  
**Recreation and Conservation**  
**Minutes of August 17, 2006 at Meadow Edge, West Sayville**

**BOARD MEMBERS  
PRESENT:**

Ray Corwin            Chairman, Member at Large  
  
Richard F. White,    Trustee, Town of East Hampton  
Jr.  
John Fritz            Trustee, Town of Babylon  
Miles Borden        Trustee, Town of Smithtown  
Aurelio Colina       Vice Chairman, Town of Southampton  
Terrence Pearsall   Member of the Board  
Jeanine Dillon       Member of the Board  
Alexander McKay   Trustee, Town of Huntington

**ABSENT:**

Gary Olsen           Trustee, Town of Brookhaven  
Gregory Dawson    Trustee, Town of Islip  
Gil Cardillo         Trustee, Town of Riverhead  
Vacant                Trustee, Town of Southold  
Vacant                Trustee, Town of Shelter Island

**PARKS DEPARTMENT:**

Ronald F. Foley     Commissioner  
Tracey Bellone      Deputy Commissioner  
Colleen Hofmeister    Contracts Manager  
William B. Sickles   Senior Parks Superintendent  
Tom Hroncich        Marketing Specialist  
Ann Rothenberg     Assistant to the Commissioner

**GUESTS:**

Jennifer Kohn        Assistant County Attorney  
Lauretta Fischer    Principal Environmental Analyst, Planning  
Department  
Margo Myles         Town of Huntington, Sr. Environ. Planner, Planning  
and Environment  
Don McKay            Town of Huntington, Director, Parks & Recreation

Vice Chairman Colina reports Chairman Corwin is on his way and opens the meeting.

**PUBLIC PORTION:**

Vice Chairman Colina noted there were no members of the public present so meeting moved on.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 20, 2006:**

Page 2 – Under Montauk Downs State Park Addition – change from Trustee McKay to Trustee White made motion to approve the acquisition....

Page 6 – Under Route 105 Access – add fishing access at Indian Island Golf Course at Route 105....

Trustee Colina entertains a motion to accept the minutes as amended. The motion was made by Trustee McKay and seconded by Trustee Fritz. The minutes were unanimously approved by a vote of 6-0-0.

Chairman Corwin arrives.

**PRESENTATION BY TOWN OF HUNTINGTON ON BENJAMIN PROPERTY:**

Presenters: Margo Myles, Town of Huntington – Planning and Environment  
Don McKay – Town of Huntington – Parks and Recreation

Margo Myles:

We are here to talk about the Veterans Park Complex, which includes the 82 acre Benjamin property that was acquired jointly by the town and county in December of 2000. The 82 acres span the west side of the Veterans Hospital federal property in Northport. There are three other parks that the town owns which completely encircle the Veterans Hospital facility. There's Meadowlark Park, which is a 66 acre park, the Veterans Nature Study Area, which is a 34 acre park, and the Veterans Park, which is an active facility at 12 ½ acres. A 20 acre plot was acquired under the Greenways Active Recreation Program. The county owns it outright and the town is obligated to develop it for recreational facilities. When moving towards an acquisition, a conceptual plan was presented to the county showing our intentions. At that time, the plan was very basic. Since the land has been acquired, a Citizens Advisory Committee was formed to prepare a draft management plan looking at all four parks as one Veterans Park complex. The Citizens Advisory Committee made recommendations on future policies for use and future development and that document is on the town website. Two special community meetings were held to try to get public input on the facility and what people felt about the town's proposed development plans. Our plan is more ambitious now than when we first started. Former Suffolk County Park employee, Greg Laurie, assisted us through the process of trying to utilize the 20 acres to the fullest extent.

(Two maps were distributed to meeting attendees). The smaller map is a representation of the first plan submitted to the county, the larger map is the plan being discussed. A meeting was held approximately 2 ½ weeks ago with several representatives of County Parks and Town Department Directors at the Veterans Park complex. At that time it was recommended that we talk to the Trustees about the changes in the plan. The 30 acres on the western leg of the map were required to be managed as a nature preserve. Thirty (30) acres is held by the Town and County together under the Land Preservation Partnership – that will stay passive recreation. Trails will be used and we may be developing some new trail connections to make sure the trails are used to the best extent. The town is presently in the midst of a Brownsfield remediation project on a small 3 acre site in the nature study area. Meadowlark Park has been designated for multi use trails and we'll be developing additional trails – mountain bike trails, equestrian trails

and, in time, during phase three, will be developing the back entrance to Meadowlark.

Margo Myles introduces Don McKay, Town Director of Parks and Recreation to further discuss the new plan.

Don McKay:

Indicates location of existing recreational complex at Veterans Park on the map. Also indicates location of turf field and, what looks like a soccer field, is really two small Little League fields. Indicates map location of parking lot, tennis courts, volleyball courts, basketball courts and the entrance. The security building has just been redone. The town invested a couple of hundred thousand dollars to enhance security which includes the Town of Huntington Security, Suffolk County Police and Suffolk County Park Police.

The focal point of Phase I is two lighted synthetic multi purpose fields for soccer, football and lacrosse. The new thing is synthetic turf. Environmentally, it is great. Very little water is needed, only in summer time to cool the fields down. There are no fertilizers or pesticides. There are plans to build two, back to back, lighted, synthetic fields, north and south for sun exposure. The lower field will become primarily a parking lot for a balanced playground, a playground where disabled children can play along able bodied children. The town has been working on this a number of years – it has been delayed because the plan has changed a few times. There will be parking adjacent to it.

There is also a piece of property owned by the Northport School District. There is a gentlemen's agreement regarding the use of property and there is a legal binding document which limits the town's use. The town is allowed to use it for recreational use. The town decided to leave this alone and work out an agreement with the school district. In order to change any property use, the town would have to go back to the voters of the school district for approval. They are working on that and the school district has been very cooperative. The entranceway will come below the grade of the existing hill (indicated on map), around the Bellrose school property and up to the new parking lot, which would be above the two multi purpose fields. There will be two T-ball fields for the little tots for Little League and four larger 60 ft. fields for the older Little League kids. A small building for rest rooms and a concession is in the plan. On the existing turf field, which needs work and has seen better days, the town's plan is to redo the irrigation system and put in either sod or seed it. The field below has a residence next door which concerns the town. The town will transform this to a Little League field, and a smaller soccer field, not lighted. On the upper portion of map, existing is a small sand area used for adult volley ball. The town plan is to relocate onto the school property with the cooperation of the school district.

The State came out with a grant for the Town of Huntington for a new skate park, which will be part of Phase II. Phase I is the multi-purposed fields, along with the balanced playground. The town has an existing skate park in Greenlawn. The town is looking to do an additional skate park and then, in Phase II, there are plans for a trail for peddle bikes. Right now the town's focus is on the multi purpose fields and the balanced playground.

Commissioner Foley explained that this was a pretty spoiled site. A lot of excavation and cleanup was done. If you go in there today, it looks like healthy woodland, but that's re-growth after the cleanup was done by the town. So this is really capitalizing on and making beneficial use of something that was just dumping land.

Margo Myles explained that there was a 20 acre parcel that was the sewage treatment facility for the VA hospital, which was closed in 1970. When the town closed on the property, the Huntington Town Board was adamant that we hold funding in escrow to ensure that property would be cleaned to the same extent as if the property were going to be developed residentially.

The Health Department and the State DEC had been very involved over the years watching the extended Phase II, so there's already a protocol that has been worked out for the cleanup and the town board required that \$3 million of the \$8 million on the purchase price be held in escrow until the site was cleaned to the satisfaction of the Health Department, who oversaw this operation. There were some areas of residual sewage sludge and they removed those layers properly. A lot of tires, a lot of metal, broken concrete were removed. The town plan was very sensitive to that area, where most of the cleanup and excavation occurred, which is why the large parking area is situated the way it is. So even though the cleanup has been done to the Health Department's satisfaction, an artificial field provides a barrier to anything that might be disconcerting from the past.

Chairman Corwin: Is this is federal property surplused by the federal government?

Margo Myles: Yes.

Trustee McKay reports the area where the development would be is clear. There's virtually no vegetation there. The rest of the site is rather heavily forested and the forest is beautiful. The little light green patch on the map is a pine grove that is amazing.

Trustee Fritz: The dirt bike track on the upper portion of the property - is it for dirt bikes or bicycles?

Margo Myles: They are called BMX bicycles – they're very low bicycles with pedals, not motorized.

Margo Myles revisits the security building and the improvements there. The town put together an inter-agency security task force not long after the property was acquired with representatives from the VA Hospital Security, County Parks, County Police, County Cope and the School District's Security to take a hard look at this and what was needed. There is a working group now that the town can rely upon. There have been some problems with off-road vehicles in there and that's one of the reasons the town wants to have security on the site. The residents have looked favorably upon this at community meetings. The one thing that came out at the last meeting was the dire need for fields. There's a growing need for adult soccer leagues. This is the only place in the town where adult leagues can play and use the fields at night. There's a new football league that began after we acquired the property. The kids range from 5 to 15 years old.

Don McKay reports that the problem is that youth sports is planned 12 months of the year. It used to be lacrosse was in the spring, soccer was in the fall, baseball was whenever. Now they play soccer in November, they play baseball in November. On the synthetic fields you can literally play a soccer game after a 6 inch snow storm in January. You take specialized equipment, remove the snow from the field and you can play 2 hours later on that field. There are specialized plows and equipment to clear these fields. The demand that we have from groups, i.e. Northport Football, is large. Northport was hoping to get 100 kids, now they have 300. When the crunch comes, daylight savings time, they have no where to practice. Now they can use these fields, possibly two, depending on scheduling, 4 days a week. We have adult soccer, I believe 5 nights a week, 2 games a night, who will also be using this field. We also have youth soccer who will be using this and also thriving, up and coming, lacrosse in Huntington and Northport. We're telling these groups they're going to have to contribute and pay for some of these improvements, the smaller items.

Margo Myles: Two of the things I'd like mention are that the fields will be lit and the proposal changed from what we initially proposed. There was some concerns about putting lighting there. Last year the town board implemented some very tough lighting codes, the dark skies initiative - you are prohibited from light trespass on any adjoining properties - you can't have any more than

5% light straight up in the sky. The town has very strict codes. While existing lights on sporting fields are exempt until they need to be replaced, any new lights that have to go in have to be fully compliant with the new town ordinance, so we'll be looking at lighting fixtures that are going to be very well back-shielded. I'd also like to mention a small building we'd like to put in. Our hope is that it would be used in the future as a small program site so that schools could visit the area and utilize the natural resources. We're going to be developing a very nice integrated trail system and, potentially, we might be looking at this as a camp into the future.

Don McKay: The town now operates with 4 or 5 summer camp programs. A camp person was looking at this map location (pointing to map) as a great potential site for a new camp. There are different themes for each of our camps. We have Dix Hills Adventure Camp, we have Camp Soundview on Long Island Sound at Crab Meadow Beach, Camp Seahawk at Cold Spring Harbor and then also Goldstar which is more of a marine camp. But this one we envision as an athletic camp where we have a playground and the potential for a small controlled splash park with the stuff that squirts up with water. It would just be a great location for a new camp, but of course we would need the cooperation of the school district. We would have to use the school district building, which we do already. We work with at least 3 or 4 school districts with other camps.

Chairman Corwin: On the aerial, which portion is the Veterans Hospital property?

Margo Myles: The VA Hospital property is this red line that runs around. We have approached the federal government and have asked for a transfer of two additional parcels that kind of run here and here (referring to the map) because these two main trails are very important to our trails network and while they told us they can't convey anything right now, we're continuing to discuss with them because we feel it's really important for our trails network.

Chairman Corwin: Is the federal government letting you use the properties?

Margo Myles: No one has stopped us yet.

Chairman Corwin: The reverse question – is the Northport hospital, for whatever reasons, rehabilitation reasons or whatever, considering using some of the facilities for rehab?

Margo Myles: We have definitely discussed this with their Public Community Relations Director and we talked to them just about the therapeutic aspect. We are going to have some paved trails in certain sections and that's one thing that they're very interested in, being able to take wheelchair patients out and utilize the trails. I think there's going to be a nice partnership as we move forward.

Chairman Corwin: So as far as you know, are you guys presenting to the hospital board or staff?

Margo Myles: Joe Sledge, who is their Public and Community Relations Director, has been involved with all of our community meetings and we've actually been helping give them information. One of the first things we did was a boundary and photographic survey for the entire property which we shared with them because they're looking at marking their boundaries a little better. We've also been in communication with the child care center at the VA hospital. There's also the middle school here (points to location on map). This site actually links the two schools, the elementary and middle schools. The kids that go to Bellrose will be at the middle school as they age, so it will be a nice partnership.

Don McKay: As far as the VA using any of these facilities, it goes without saying. They reach out to us and whether they want to use it for a softball game, that's a given. We absolutely support the veterans.

Chairman Corwin: I'm just hoping that it's written down somewhere so that future management in the town and the VA hospital both understand it.

Margo Myles: We are also developing a veteran's plaza.

Don McKay: It's a veteran's park – a memorial, well not a memorial, but a landscaped entrance way coming in.

Chairman Corwin: The other question I had for you, not that I expect there's an overwhelming demand, to the extent that that Suffolk County residents from outside Huntington want to make some use of the nature preserve parcel walking through or the greenways active recreational area, to what extent would people from Riverhead or Southampton be able drive up there and say I want to hike through this piece of land the county partly owns?

Margo Myles: We welcome it - we'd never stop it. I run hikes there that are advertised through the Greenbelt Trails Association and we have a Huntington Trails Association. I think the longest running off-road cross country race in the northeast is run every year on the VA hospital grounds. We've been in communication with the organization that runs that and, in all likelihood, they'll be shifting their course and utilizing the park as we go forward. We've got probably 30 different recreational user groups that we're dealing with, from the Horsemen's Associations who will be defining equestrian trails through certain components of this thing, to all of the active user groups. We've had the Trails Association in the community look at this thing. I think that we might have a lot of partnerships going forward, certainly the Long Island Mountain Bike Association. They will be working with us to develop the mountain bike trails and they will be responsible for maintaining them.

Margo Myles: Well, the other thing we have to realize is these properties have been made available through the federal government, so we can't banish any Americans from utilizing this property.

Trustee McKay: How much money is in the capital program right now, or is it in there yet?

Margo Myles: There's a proposal for Phase II funding to be in for next year. Our Open Space Committee has already made a recommendation for the funding for Phase I. We are holding off bringing that recommendation to the town board for funding, making sure our SEQRA report is completed and we wanted to make sure that what we're proposing is acceptable to the Park Trustees, but the Environmental Open Space and Park Fund Review Advisory Committee have recommended \$1,860,000 for the start of Phase I and we already have \$200,000 in there. We've just been told about an award for a \$250,000 SEQRA grant.

We'd like to put a marked median down Bellrose Avenue. We're looking to treat the park and school together so any treatment we do on a roadway would matter to the two.

Commissioner Foley: The town should be commended for this plan and what they are proposing here. This is a perfect interchange between local government and the way county parks should be used. They are addressing this high demand for sports fields. Their experiment with this idea of a mountain bike trail, a BMX trail, their doing the skate park which we've always said belonged on the town level and easily accessible to the population centers of Long Island, I urge you to support it wholeheartedly.

Chairman Corwin: Are we approving a license agreement?

Commissioner Foley: We are approving a land use proposal, essentially.

Trustee McKay: I would like to make a motion to have the Trustees endorse this concept as presented.

Trustee Borden: I second the motion.

Chairman Corwin: We have a motion and a second. Any further discussion?

Al Colina: I'd like to offer a slight amendment and recommend due to the quality, depth and comprehensiveness of the planning, this would well service us as the type of project that would be a model for other submissions.

A motion to accept this plan as amended was passed unanimously by a vote 9-0-0.

### **COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:**

Raynor Beach recently opened near Lake Ronkonkoma. Due to its location, very close to the population center, there has been a great deal of vandalism. There is no immediate solution. All signs indicating what you can and cannot do are gone. Complicating that, Cathedral Pines suffered a lightning hit that knocked out all the computers to the sign making equipment. I encourage the Trustees to visit the site to look at the park. It's a worthwhile trip, a very nice improvement to what the park was previously.

Chandler Estate – we are working our way through a visitor use plan to preserve it, mostly as an environmental park with some limited parking access. We changed our public access to less intrude on the neighboring church. That plan will be coming before you when it is complete for your approval. Public access for vehicles is over an easement we own through the church parking lot and then off onto our property. While the church has quietly accepted this traffic, it is a problem for them. It also doesn't allow us to put up any type of sign that welcomes people to their parkland. We will recommend in this plan, when it comes before you, a new access point with limited parking and the ability to put up an entrance sign, an environmental interpretation kiosk, and build some trails off the property.

Scully Property – has been designated by the county as the future Environmental Interpretative Center for Suffolk County. We are in the design phase of restoration of the mansion which will accommodate the interpretive center. We do not have a presence on the site. The mansion is vacant and vandalism is very serious there. Every first floor window has been broken and much of the original leading in between the panes of glass has been wrecked. All the first floor entrance areas have been boarded up, but the vandals continue to get in there and do damage. On the positive side of that, we have a contractor in there doing asbestos abatement and DPW added a requirement to their contract that they have security there at all hours of the day and night, so we do have private security presence on the property. Park Police and the Suffolk County Police also patrol the area, but can't be there all the time. The way the property is laid out, if kids are doing something wrong, they know when police are showing up and can escape. We're trying to deal with that, but it is very frustrating.

West Hills – a few months ago we talked about constructing a dog run in the field adjacent to the parking area on the western most section of West Hills. That fence is being constructed as we speak. We consulted with the Huntington Dog Owners Association about amenities they would like to see there. It's well thought out, however, those things probably won't be installed until later on in the fall.

Trustee McKay: Does that move the people out of Coindre Hall?

Commissioner Foley: No, it does not. We are changing the way we tend to Coindre Hall by asking the tenant who lives there to leave and replacing them with an employee who can better deal directly with inappropriate use of property. Those people were there under an old agreement with Friends, paying very low rent in exchange for some duties. We were not satisfied. The dog owners think they have a proprietary right to do whatever they want. We have got to straighten that out. It's not going to be easy, there will be an uproar, but now we have an alternative facility that is acceptable to them, and we're talking about another one at Blydenburgh which there is legislative authority for. We're not ignoring the need for these things, but they need to be in places that are appropriate and Coindre Hall is just too small a property, too busy with other things, and it's an important historic asset in the county.

Canoe & Kayaking - Commissioner Foley: We are talking about expanding our canoe and kayak launches throughout the parks system. Bill Sickles can expand on that.

Bill Sickles: The Commissioner asked that I work with some of our staff to try to look at more comprehensive community kayak access and use in county parks. Right now there are no specifics. If someone calls to ask where they can launch a kayak, I verbally can tell them various locations, but we want to expand on that. There are a lot of opportunities that we're exploring.

Chairman Corwin: One of the most desired times of day for kayakers is early morning or late afternoon to early evening. Is there some way where canoers or kayakers could not be ticketed if they stay after sunset? That would add considerably to the enjoyment of sport. It's something to consider.

Bill Sickles: We're pretty much dawn to dusk as it is. There may be one or two places we need to look at it a little closer because of some competing activities.

Trustee McKay: Have you been in contact with any state people? They put out a brochure and they have opened a number of places – Sunken Meadow, Belmont Lake.

Bill Sickles: We have a boating brochure that concentrates mostly on row boat rentals and marinas with just a few words on canoes and kayaks. The Commissioner wants to expand on that. We may wind up with something unique to that activity.

Outer Beach Access - Bill Sickles reports plover season is over. Relatively successful season with about 57 pairs county wide over 17 sites and we had 73 fledge birds. Now that the plover season is over, we've been increasing access for the outer beach. Theodore Roosevelt County Park in Montauk is fully accessible now. Cedar Point is now open for 4-wheel drive access. Shinneocock East – no birds nesting there so that continues as it has. Cupsogue Beach is open and right after Labor Day we should be able to reopen 4-wheel access all the way out to the inlet for fishing. West side of Shinneocock Inlet – reopened for all OHR access until September 15th, after 6:00 PM, before 9:00 AM, and after that, it's at any time. Smith Point – one small area still closed, rest of the beach is open. Reopening outer beach camping there tomorrow. There's room for at least 50 outer beach campers and next week we'll look to see if we can increase that.

Commissioner Foley: At Smith's Point, DPW has been working with GPI in Babylon to develop the bid specs for a beach nourishment program that will excavate sand from off shore, south of Fire Island, and pump it onto 3 different locations on the outer beach of Smith Point. The estimate for the project is about \$2,000,000, however we're hearing rumors the mobilization alone could be \$1,000,000 or more for a project like this, which means out of the first million dollars, you get no sand. We won't know the facts about that until the bids come in. That should be bid soon and

the work will be done over the winter of '06/'07. Last year no one bid on it because they were so busy in Louisiana and areas down south that they wouldn't move their equipment up here.

Trap and Skeet Range - Commissioner Foley reports a lawsuit had been filed last Friday against the County, the operator, and the Pine Barrens Commission relating to the opening of the Trap and Skeet Range approximately one month ago. Difficult to discuss details of the situation – just wanted to inform the Trustees of the suit.

Chairman Corwin: The plaintiffs are the Pine Barrens Society, the South Yaphank Civic Association and several individuals with those two groups.

Trustee McKay: I looked at the agenda for the Parks Committee yesterday. There was a resolution directing Parks to cease and desist the operation. I assume that went no where.

Commissioner Foley: That resolution was discharged from the committee without recommendation which means it's before the full legislature for their Tuesday meeting at 4:00 in Hauppauge.

Chairman Corwin: Since the Commissioner and I are indirectly involved in the lawsuit, we will not make any real comment one way or another. I will defer to my Vice Chair if he wants to conduct this particular discussion.

Vice Chairman Colina: I plead the same as you.

Trustee McKay: There are two separate discussion issues: one is the lawsuit which has been originated by the Pine Barrens Society and the other is a resolution going before the legislature directing the Parks to close the Trap and Skeet Range.

A copy of the resolution is passed around.

General discussion regarding the appropriateness of Trustees passing a resolution showing their support of Trap and Skeet Range. Assistant County Attorney, Jennifer Kohn, suggests she place a call to County Attorney's office to discuss this issue.

Commissioner Foley requests report from Colleen Hofmeister.

Southaven Stables - Ms. Hofmeister reports that at Southaven Stables we advertised a Request for Expressions of Interest. Responses are due back in October.

Canoe RFP – Ms. Hofmeister reports a Request for Proposal went out for canoe and kayak operators. We had 4 prior operators. From feedback we've gotten, Southaven Park and Cedar Point Park are not profitable endeavors anymore. We got two proposals out of all the RFP's and those are from the two operators we currently have at Paul T. Given Park. We will proceed with normal policies and procedures for awarding contracts through that RFP, but we will no longer have concessionaires at Southaven or Cedar Point Park. The two we are keeping are running out of Paul T. Given. We've been very happy with them. The committee will review their proposals.

Trustee McKay reports he received a newsletter from Legislator Cooper referencing an eco-technology park and asked if Commissioner Foley could elaborate.

Commissioner Foley reports legislation was adopted authorizing us to find a location for an eco-tech park. The Legislator and one of the supporters of this idea were given a tour of the Scully property. The thinking there was we're going to meet all the lead standards when we restore the

building. Not 100% sure what this is supposed to be, the site has not yet been identified. We will continue to try to get a better definition of it. When the Foundation gets up and running, we'll probably ask Tom Hroncich, as Director of the Foundation, to be active in this.

Jennifer Kohn informs the Trustees she spoke with Dennis Brown and that the Trustees can pass a resolution supporting the Trap and Skeet range.

Motion by Trustee Fritz, seconded by Trustee Borden, to create a resolution to show the Trustee support of the continued operation of the Suffolk County Trap and Skeet Range. The motion passed by a vote of 7-2-0 with Chairman Corwin and Trustee Pearsall abstaining.

Trustee McKay recommends that the Park Trustees be informed by the Legislature when issues arise involving Suffolk County Parks.

Commissioner Foley said he would keep Trustees informed on development of legislative issues.

Millers Pond - Commissioner Foley reports we are managing the water levels in accordance with DEC permit received and amended. The amendment allows us to let the water level drop 5 inches below its traditional level. Superintendent Sickles received a complaint yesterday about pond water level being too low. Someone removed a board and we replaced it. We're managing the situation to the best of our ability.

#### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

County Board Appointments and Reappointments - Chairman Corwin discusses the handout (which was distributed to the Trustees) from the County Executive's seminar on appointments and reappointments to county boards and commissions. The County Executive's office is adamant about trying to be consistent with the new procedures. They are very interested in attendance records. Please be sensitive to your expiration dates and don't wait until the month before to get paperwork together.

Trustee McKay: Was there any discussion regarding term limits?

Chairman Corwin: There was no discussion about people having a maximum number of years on a board. Real issue is over attendance and holdovers.

Commissioner Foley: The attendance requirement is spelled out in the charter. If you miss three consecutive meetings, you are automatically off the Board.

Chairman Corwin, at the request of John Seaman, reads a copy of a letter addressed to Commissioner Foley, from John Seaman, commending the outstanding performance of Parks during the TWA memorial dedication ceremony.

#### **OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:**

Status of Parks Foundation - Tom Hroncich: We are still waiting for the Department of Civil Service to create the Parks Foundation Director position. The corporation has been formed and we received our PIN from the federal government.

Commissioner Foley commented that the next step is an organizational meeting.

Chairman Corwin invites Trustees to attend the first meeting to see where we take the first steps.

Trustee Colina asked that we update the gas mileage issue.

Commissioner Foley said will check into this issue.

Trustee Borden said he attended a wedding at Coindre Hall last weekend which was well received and we should be proud of Coindre Hall.

Corwood Landing - Bill Sickles reports fishing permits issued were less than five. There are things we can do to open that park to make it more accessible to people interested in hiking and access along the Long Island Sound. A proposal will be discussed with Commissioner Foley.

Outer Beach Camping – Shagwong - Trustee White reported that last week he meet with Trustee Fritz, Nick Gibbons and representatives of both sides regarding the issue of the outer beach camping behind the dunes at Shagwong. They wanted to state to campers that this was not a ploy to eliminate beach camping and to state to the people who are opposed to camping that this was not an expansion. There are problems that need to be addressed, but when he left the meeting, he felt that both sides understood exactly what they had been discussing.

Chairman Corwin asked if all is O.K. at the GATR site.

Trustee White responded yes.

Bill Sickles reported that Third House is moving along very well. Much progress has been made in the last couple of weeks.

Trustee McKay asks if there has been any problem with greens deteriorating on golf courses.

Bill Sickles reports there were some disease issues this past summer with a disease called anthracnose.

**DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING:**

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Thursday, September 21st at Meschutt Beach at 1:00 PM. Lunch will be served at 12:00 noon.

The motion to adjourn was made by Chairman Corwin and seconded by Trustee Colina. Motion approved unanimously by a vote 9-0-0.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ann Rothenberg.